



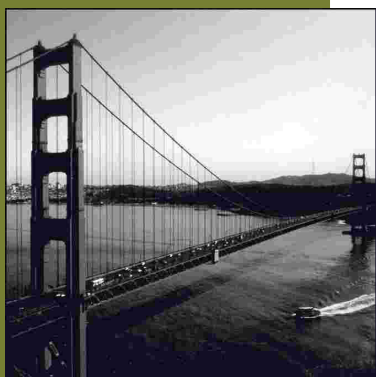
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SAN FRANCISCO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

- WHERE IS THE SAN FRANCISCO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD?
- KEY ISSUES IN REGION 2
- WATER DATA
- SAN FRANCISCO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (REGION 2)
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WHERE IS THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD?

San Francisco Bay lies at the heart of this Region, home to more than seven million people. Industries range from high tech computer manufacturers in “Silicon Valley” to oil refineries in Contra Costa County. The northern part of the Region supports agriculture, such as the wine industry and dairies. Despite the heavy urbanization of the Region, there are still abundant natural resources, such as migratory birds, and fish in and around the Bay. Headquarters for the Regional Water Board is in Oakland.

KEY ISSUES IN REGION 2

The Regional Water Board’s on-going regulatory programs have resulted in significant pollution reductions over the last 30 years, despite a growing population. The Regional Water Board has also assessed millions of dollars in fines over the last ten years, with about 70 percent of the money being used for local environmental projects.

The Regional Water Board is working on several significant programs to improve surface water quality. Staff are pursuing a vigorous enforcement and education program to control construction site erosion and other Stormwater issues. Working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Water Board staff completed most of the cleanup of the Gambonini mercury mine in Marin County.

The Regional Water Board has also worked with local flood control agencies to develop projects that offer flood protection and protect both water quality and natural habitats. Regional Water Board staff are working on Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), invasive species throughout the Bay, copper and nickel in the South Bay, and pesticides in urban creeks. The Regional Water Board continues its watershed management efforts, working with stakeholders in Napa and Santa Clara Counties. Staff, working with local agencies on pollution prevention programs, used innovative approaches to deal with surface water issues.

In the area of groundwater, staff made detailed assessments of groundwater use in San Francisco and the East Bay Plain and are currently working on South Bay groundwater basins. These assessments helped guide groundwater cleanup. Staff has also been working with various agencies to help implement “Brownfields” programs. Working with local agencies, Board staff have cleaned and closed more than two-thirds of the Region’s leaking underground storage tank (UST) sites.

WATER DATA

- 4,300 square miles of land
- 450 square miles of Bay water surface
- 110 miles of coastline